

OCT 05 2006

IN THE CLAIMS

A Listing of Claims is provided as follows and will replace any previous listing.
No new matter has been added.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal shutter comprising:
 [[a]] first and [[a]] second transparent substrates arranged to face each other;
 a light shielding film formed on a surface of the second transparent substrate
facing the first transparent substrate for restricting incidence of light ~~travelling~~ traveling
from the first transparent substrate to the second transparent substrate; and
 a transparent electrode laminated over the light shielding film via a single
insulating layer;
 wherein the insulating layer is made of an inorganic oxide, and
 wherein the light shielding film comprises a metal layer and a surface layer made
of a metal oxide, the surface layer of the light shielding film being held in contact with
the insulating layer.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystal shutter according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the
inorganic oxide is SiO₂ or Ta₂O₅.
4. (Original) The liquid crystal shutter according to claim 1, wherein the insulating layer
has a thickness of no more than 2000 Å.
5. (Original) The liquid crystal shutter according to claim 1, wherein the insulating layer
is made by a method selected from the group consisting of dip coating, bias sputtering
and plasma CVD.
6. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystal shutter according to claim 1, wherein the
metal layer of the light shielding film is made of a metal chromium.

7. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystal shutter according to claim [[1]] 6, wherein the surface layer of the light shielding film has an obverse surface is made of chromium oxide.

8. (Original) The liquid crystal shutter according to claim 1, wherein the light shielding film is formed with an opening for selectively allowing incidence of light passing through the first transparent substrate onto the second transparent substrate; and
wherein the opening has a tapered edge.

9. (Original) The liquid crystal shutter according to claim 8, wherein the light shielding film has a thickness of no more than 3000 Å.

10-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A printhead provided with a liquid crystal shutter, the printhead comprising:

[[a]] first and [[a]] second transparent substrates arranged to face each other;
a light shielding film formed on a surface of the second transparent substrate facing the first transparent substrate for restricting incidence of light travelling traveling from the first transparent substrate to the second transparent substrate; and

a transparent electrode laminated over the light shielding film via a single insulating layer;

wherein the insulating layer is made of an inorganic oxide, and
wherein the light shielding film comprises a metal layer and a surface layer made of a metal oxide, the surface layer of the light shielding film being held in contact with the insulating layer.

20. (Original) The printhead according to claim 19, further comprising an illuminator capable of individually emitting red light, green light and blue light.

21-22. (Canceled)